



Director, the Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date 12/11/00
Mo. Day Yr.

Atty. Docket 862 C1917

Application No. 09/577,608

Sir:

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the accompanying:

- ☐ Response to Official Action. _____
- ☐ Check for \$ _____ (claims fee)
- ☐ Petition under 37 CFR 1.136 and Check for \$ _____
- ☐ Notice of Appeal and Check for \$ _____
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 and 41/201 documents
- ☐ Claim for priority and certified copies of _____ priority applications
- ☐ Issue fee transmittal and Check for \$ _____
- ☐ Other (specify) _____

by placing your receiving date stamp hereon and mailing or returning to deliverer.

Atty. SEN/kjw

Due Date 12/11/00
Mo. Day Yr.

37 CFR 1.8 ☐

37 CFR 1.10 ☐

By Hand ☒

FORM-B-96



862.C1917

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
EIGO KAWAKAMI, ET AL.) : Examiner: Unassigned
Application No.: 09/577,608) : Group Art Unit: 2876
Filed: May 25, 2000) :
For: POSITIONING APPARATUS,) December 11, 2000
ATMOSPHERE SUBSTITUTING)
METHOD, EXPOSURE APPARATUS,)
AND DEVICE MANUFACTURING)
METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Japanese Patent Document No. 2-156625 is discussed on page 1 of the subject specification. The Examiner may find this document pertinent for the reasons noted therein.

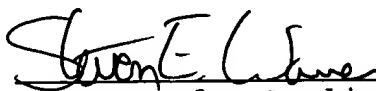
No translation was readily available for the above-noted Japanese document. Nevertheless, a translation of this document will be submitted if so requested by the Examiner. In the meantime, an English-language abstract, obtained from a commercial database, is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants believe that no fee is due in connection with this filing. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fee be deemed required for this filing.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the above information and return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 indicating that such information has been considered.


Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

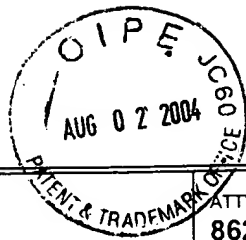
Respectfully submitted,


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(resigned on 8-2-04)




FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 862.C1917		APPLICATION NO. 09/577,608			
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		APPLICANT EIGO KAWAKAMI, ET AL.					
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		FILING DATE May 25, 2000		GROUP 2876			
Submitted to the PTO: December 11, 2000							
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		4,969,168	11/1990	Sakamoto, et al.	378	34	
		5,093,579	03/1992	Amemiya, et al.	250	453.1	
		5,999,589	12/1999	Chiba, et al.	378	34	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		2-156625	06/1990	Japan			w/Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

SEW/vjw

Sheet 1 of 1